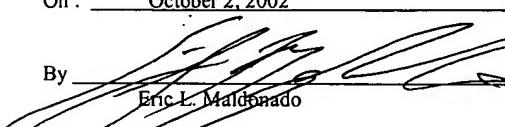




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By   
Eric L. Maldonado

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Attorney Docket No. 100717-00054 (GRAT 19.511)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Thomas HURLAND, et al.

Serial No.: 10/088,754

Filed: March 20, 2002

Title: BALLOON FOR PREPARING FOR...

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OCT 09 2002

Examiner:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Art Unit:

October 2, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

As some of these documents are written in a language other than English, English Language Abstracts and equivalents are annexed thereto explaining their relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

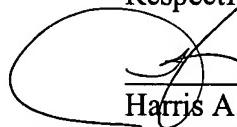


The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

**Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Harris A. Wolin  
Reg. No. 39,432

Katten Muchin Zavis Rosenman  
575 MADISON AVENUE  
15TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022-2585  
(212) 940-8800  
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